## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 00990 241045Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05 /053 W ------014565 250035Z /15

R 240934Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1172 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 0990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, NP

SUBJECT: B.P. KOIRALA'S FEBRUARY 23 REMARKS TO JOURNALISTS

REF: KATHMANDU 0965

1. KATHMANDU NEWSPAPERS FEBRUARY 24 CARRY SIMILAR ACCOUNTS OF B.P. KOIRALA'S REMARKS TO JOURNALISTS FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON FEBRUARY 23.

ACCOUNTS LEAD OFF WITH KOIRALA'S EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE "FOR THE GREAT KINDNESS HIS MAJESTY KING BIRENDRA HAS SHOWN BY RELEASING ME FROM CUSTODY FOR A SECOND TIME". KOIRALA SAID HOWEVER HE IS NOT MAKING ANY STATEMENT BEFORE HE HAS HAD AN AUDIENCE WITH HIS MAJESTY; "ACTUALLY A STATEMENT FROM ME NOW WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL FROM A LEGAL, POLITICAL OR MORAL POINT OF VIEW IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES". IN REPLY TO A QUESTION HE SAID HE WAS NOT GOING ABROAD UNTIL THE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST HIM AT THE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL WERE CLEARED.

2. REFERRING TO HIS NEED TO GO ABROAD FOR AN OPERATION ON HIS RIGHT CAROTID ARTERY, HE SAID BLOOD COAGULATION IN THAT VESSEL WAS AT A 50 PER CENT RATE. HE SAID HIS DOCTORS ADVISED HIM TO HAVE HIS RIGHT CAROTID ARTERY OPERATED ON WITHIN SIX TO TWELVE UNCLASSIFIED

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MONTHS OF THE ANTI-COAGULATION OPERATION HE UNDERWENT LAST SUMMER ON HIS LEFT CAROTID.

3. HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS, MEDICAL ATTENTION, AND OTHER FACILITIES PROVIDED HIM DURING HIS CONFINEMENT. HE WAS ALSO PLEASED WITH THE COURTESY AND DECENT TREATMENT SHOWN HIM BY POLICE OFFICIALS AND OTHER

PERSONNEL WHILE UNDER CUSTODY, HE SAID. HECK

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